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Ward's Hotel and the Washington News Exchange,
14th street, bet. Penn. ave. and D street.

The Indiana oil belt seems to be gold
lined.

One of the real reasons that trade is
improving is that the country knows that
free trade was killed the first Tuesday
in last November.

Why was so notable a soldier as Gen.
Fred Kneifer, who was at Chickamauga,
forgotten when the Chickamauga com-
mission was made up?

The protection of American industries
and the restoration of the American mar-
kets to the American producers is, after
all, the leading issue before the country.

It is amusing to have such long-time
advocates of the free coinage of silver
by the United States alone as the
intransigent Senator Harris break into the
press dispatches as a convert.

Those persons of inflated imagina-
tions who go about yawning about "en-
slavement to the money power of Eng-
land," have reason to be thankful that
the fool killer is off his beat these times.

Rye is high and potatoes are high;
most agricultural products are altitu-
dinous in price, in fact; but wheat is
low, and the tiller of the soil who wants
to put all his eggs in one basket refuses
to be comforted.

Democratic subscribers to the Chicago
Times-Herald may feel a temporary dis-
satisfaction at being switched off so suddenly
to the Republican track, but when they
get used to the new arrangement they
will be glad it came about.

The silence of Secretary Gresham upon
the silver question should cause suspi-
cion on the part of Vice President
Stevenson that the money power of the
country may be an aspirant for the Dem-
ocratic nomination on a free silver coinage
plan.

Mr. Bynum is spoken of in the dis-
patches as the "late statesman." This is
not quite correct. He never was a
statesman, but he was a trifle too late
to get it out of the wet ink. The last
incident in his history seems likely to
repeat itself this spring.

In printing a Denver dispatch yester-
day a large number of newspapers made
the age for retiring officers in the United
States army sixty-four instead of sixty-two
years. There are some excellent sol-
diers who are being placed on the re-
tired list whom the country would not
like to believe are two years older than
they are.

The Philadelphia Inquirer assumes
that the gossip to the effect that General
Harrison refused to attend the conven-
tion of the Lincoln League because he
did not desire to enter Governor McKin-
ley's territory is true, when it is false.
The assigned no such reason. If the Re-
publicans in Ohio needed General Harri-
son's assistance in a campaign he would
probably go thither, and Governor McKin-
ley would be the first to give him most
cordial welcome.

It should be no difficult task to ascer-
tain if the charges that the "big four,"
meaning the packers, are responsible for
the high price of beef. The prices paid
for cattle at Chicago are published every
day. All that is necessary to make the
comparison to prove or disprove the
charges is to get the prices which the
Chicago and other packers charge the
Eastern jobbers for dressed beef. If the
difference between the price of cattle and
of dressed beef is very marked the packers
are responsible. For years that
difference has existed, consequently if it
is not materially greater now than heret-
ofore the packers are not responsible
for the high price of beef. The New York
World and the Indianapolis Secretary of
Agriculture would investigate the matter
referred to they could tell who is the cul-
prit. Perhaps there is more popularity
in making charges.

Not long since the opposition in the
House of Commons nagged the Cabinet
Minister known as the President of the
British Board of Trade about the im-
portation of prison-made goods from
Great Britain. When that official an-
swered he said that he learned from the
Secretary of the Treasury of the United
States that no steps had been taken by
him to prevent the importation of such
goods into the United States. Neverthe-
less, Section 24 of the Democratic tariff
law prohibits the importation into the
United States of all merchandise manu-
factured in whole or in part by convict
labor, and authorizes the Secretary of
the Treasury to prescribe such regula-
tions as shall be necessary for the en-
forcement of the prohibition. Mr. Car-
lisle seems not to have done this, and
consequently the importation of brushes,
buttons, etc., made by convict labor has
largely increased. But, then, such goods
are cheaper than those made in this
country, and cheapness is the end of
free trade.

The American Industrial Union has
been launched in Chicago. Its object is
to establish general co-operation, to

maintain employment bureaus, to ad-
vocate a general eight-hour work day
to take effect Sept. 1, 1897, and to es-
tablish a system of arbitration. The
greatest stress is laid upon the co-
operative feature. This is to be attained
or attempted by postal savings banks
for wage earners, whose deposits are
to be loaned to establish industries which
will give employment to the unemployed.
It will keep in close touch with the ex-
isting co-operative colonies, of which
thirty-five are already organized. This
last scheme, if prudently managed, can
be made useful, but the government will
not establish postal savings banks to
collect money to be intrusted to any pri-
vate individuals or corporations to build
factories. That is not a function of gov-
ernment. If it were, very few intelli-
gent wage earners would deposit their
savings to be put into enterprises re-
quiring the greatest skill and long ex-
perience to make them moderately suc-
cessful. George W. Howard, who was
Deputy most zealous lieutenant of A.
R. U. is the general secretary of this
new organization with so far-reaching
plans.

THE ANSWER OF STATISTICIANS.

A business man in this city has sent
the Journal several questions regarding
the stock of money, etc., which will be
considered in the order in which they
are given:

Has the output of the gold mines of the
world increased or decreased within the
last twenty-five years? Has the gold
mined kept up with the world's increase
of population and the world's needs?

The foregoing question is answered by
the estimates of Dr. Sootbeer, the highest
authority, and those of the directors of
the United States mints since 1873 as
follows:

Period. Annual average output—gold—silver—

1870-80, 90 years.....\$15,750,161 \$2,295,424

1880-90, 10 years.....10,439,489 79,887,608

1890-95, 5 years.....11,217,310 79,887,608

1895-96, 1 year.....11,002,855 100,301,822

1896-97, 1 year.....12,409,163 100,301,822

1897-98, 1 year.....12,409,163 100,301,822

1898-99, 1 year.....12,409,163 100,301,822

1899-00, 1 year.....12,409,163 100,301,822

1900-01, 1 year.....12,409,163 100,301,822

1901-02, 1 year.....12,409,163 100,301,822

1902-03, 1 year.....12,409,163 100,301,822

1903-04, 1 year.....12,409,163 100,301,822

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2001-02, 1 year.....12,409,163 100,301,822

2002-03, 1 year.....12,409,163 100,301,822

2003-04, 1 year.....12,409,163 100,301,822

2004-05, 1 year.....12,409,163 100,301,822

2005-06, 1 year.....12,409,163 100,301,822

2006-07, 1 year.....12,409,163 100,301,822

2007-08, 1 year.....12,409,163 100,301,822

2008-09, 1 year.....12,409,163 100,301,822

2009-10, 1 year.....12,409,163 100,301,822

2010-11, 1 year.....12,409,163 100,301,822

2011-12, 1 year.....12,409,163 100,301,822

2012-13, 1 year.....12,409,163 100,301,822